CLAIMS

1. In a data processing system having a user terminal coupled to a data base management system via a publically accessible digital data communication network, the improvement comprising:

a. a document containing a plurality of elements formatted in XML (extensible markup language) transferred from said user terminal to said data base management system; and

b. an XML mapping tree via which the transformation of each of said plurality of elements is defined.

2. The improvement according to claim 1 wherein at least one of said plurality of elements further comprises an attribute which is recorded within said XML mapping tree.

3. The improvement according to claim 2 wherein said document is defined by a Document Type Definition (DTD).

4. The improvement according to claim 3 further comprising a storage space in which said XML mapping tree is stored for future use.

5. The improvement according to claim 4 wherein said XML mapping tree is displayed on said user terminal in a window.

6. An apparatus comprising:

a. an XML document;

b. a publically accessible digital data communication network;

c. a data base management system having an input format different from XML responsively coupled to said publically accessible digital data communication network which receives said XML document via said publically accessible digital data communication network; and

d. an XML mapping tree responsively coupled to said data base management system which parses said XML document into said input format of said data base management system.

7. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said XML mapping tree is stored for future use.

8. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein said XML document further comprises a plurality of elements and at least one of said plurality of elements has an attribute.

9. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein said publically accessible digital data communication system further comprises the Internet.

10. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said XML mapping tree is hierarchical.

11. A method of interfacing an XML document to a data base management system having an incompatible input protocol comprising:

a. transferring said XML document to said data base management system via a publically accessible digital data communication network;

b. parsing said XML document into an XML mapping tree; and

c. presenting said parsed XML document to said data base management system for processing.

12. A method according to claim 11 further comprising the set of saving said XML mapping tree for future use.

13. A method according to claim 12 wherein said XML document is defined by a DTD.

14. A method according to claim 13 wherein said XML document further comprises a plurality of elements and at least one element has an attribute.

15. A method according to claim 14 wherein said publically accessible digital data communication network further comprises the Internet.

16. An apparatus comprising:

a. means for transmitting an XML document;

b. means responsively coupled to said transmitting means for providing data base management functions; and

c. means responsively coupled to said providing means for composing said XML document from an XML mapping tree and data in said data base management system.

17. An apparatus according to claim 16 wherein said composing means further comprises means for storing said parsed XML document for future use.

18. An apparatus according to claim 17 wherein said XML document further comprises a plurality of elements and at least one of said plurality of elements has an attribute.

19. An apparatus according to claim 18 wherein said transmitting means further comprises the Internet.

20. An apparatus according to claim 19 further comprising means for displaying said XML document.